

### **Replacement of Coaches of Kerala Bound Trains**

7953. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that old and dilapidated coaches are attached to Kerala bound trains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to replace old and dilapidated bogies from trains to Kerala?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Coaches are condemned on age cum condition basis and replaced. It is, however, ensured that only those coaches which fully comply with the safety and passenger amenity standard are retained in service.

### **Regularisation of Casual Workers of Instrumentation Ltd. Kota In Bokaro**

7954. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of casual workers working in Bokaro under Instrumentation Ltd. (Kota) for more than 260 days facts in details giving the period of their service;

(b) whether they are getting different wage and amenities from the permanent workers while doing the same job violating the provision of the Industrial Dispute Acts constituting usual labour practice;

(c) whether the workers kept as casual for year, are agitating for becoming permanent, as per law; and

(d) if so, the facts in details and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Instrumentation Ltd., Kota has, at present, 172 temporary workers having more than 260 days on the roll of its Bokaro site office. The period of their services range from 7 years and above.

(b) They are paid all benefits and privileges as per the tripartite settlement entered into in 1987.

(c) and (d). Taking into consideration the demand of the workers, the company has offered regular pay scales to 100 workers, amongst those who had applied and balance have been given temporary status. Even after availing the benefits under the settlement, majority of the workers have filed writ petitions which have been admitted by the Patna High Court.

### **Computerisation of Passenger Reservations in Punjab**

7955. SHRI KRIPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to provide computerised passenger reservations in Jalandhar, Ludhiana and other big cities of Punjab

(b) if so, when and the places where it is proposed to be provided; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) So, far, passenger Reservation System have been computerised only in

nine cities viz., Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Secunderabad, Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Bhopal and Lucknow. Nine more cities viz., Pune, Guwahati, Jaipur, Patna, Gorkhapur, Trivandrum Jammu Tawi, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack will be covered during the current year. These cities have been selected on the basis of their reservation workload and their importance. Other cities, including those in Punjab, would be considered in their turn. However, a few reservation terminals linked to the Delhi System have been installed at Amritsar on experimental basis.

[*Translation*]

#### Encouragement for Capital Investment in Punjab

7956. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated or propose to formulate any special scheme to encourage capital investment, especially in Punjab by Non-Resident Indians; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). A number of incentives are offered to NRIs for setting up enterprises in the country. These are briefly listed below:

- i) NRIs have been given the benefit of repatriation of capital investment and the income earned thereon to the extent of 40% of the total paid-up capital of the project.
- ii) In priority industries, the benefit of repatriation on capital invested and income earned thereon is permissible to the extent of 74% of the

total paid-up capital of the project. In non-priority industries also the same repatriation benefits on capital investments are available, provided the item is not reserved for small scale sector the unit undertakes export obligation of a minimum of 60% of the output and a minimum of 75% of the output in the case of items reserved for small scale sector.

- iii) NRIs have also been given incentives for import of capital goods, components and raw materials for setting up industrial units in accordance with the Import and Export Policy, 1990-93.
- iv) NRI investments are allowed in all activities except real estate business, agricultural and plantation activities.

The above incentives are available to NRIs for setting up industrial units in Punjab also. Besides these, the Government of Punjab's Industrial Policy, 1989 has provided more favourable fiscal incentives to NRIs than to others to encourage investments in Punjab by the NRIs. 5% reservation has also been given to the NRIs in the allotment of industrial plots in the focal points developed by the Punjab Government/Punjab Small Industries and Export Corporation.

[*English*]

#### Exploration of Mineral Oil

7957. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken for the exploration of mineral oil in various parts of the country; and